Mr. K. T. Achyutan *(Ezhuvas-Mukundapuram):* May I know whether there was any failure as far as State loans in the past were concerned?

Rao Sahib P. V. Raphael *(Comptroller of Finance and Accounts):* On the previous occasion we had to issue at Rs. 99—8—0 and we had to pay an underwriting commission. This we issued at par.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്". പണിക്കർ: ഇപ്പോഴും ഇതിനു" എതാണ്ടു" ഏ ൦ ൦-ക്കു" തന്നെയിത മല്ലെ കമ്മിഷൻ വെച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതു"?

Rao Sahib P. V. Raphael *(Comptroller of Finance and Accounts):* The dommission rates are all confidential. But I can assure you all, that it is very very favourable to us.

Demand put and carried

54. "41—Miscellaneous—Transfer to Revenue Reserve Fund"

Rao Sahib P. V. Raphael *(Comptroller of Finance and Accounts):* Sir, I rise to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 15 lakhs under "41—Miscellaneous—Transfer to Revenue ReserveFund". This is only a book adjustment from the realised surplus of 1120. We had made no provision for this reserve in the Budget. I request the House may be pleased to sanction the allotment.

Demand put and carried.

55. "41—Miscellaneous—7—Other Heads (c) Refund of Lapsed Deposits"

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Comptroller of Finance and Accounts):* Sir, I rise to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 7,500 under "41—Miscellaneous—7—Other heads (c) Refund of Lapsed Deposits". There is a provision of Rs1,100 in the Budget under this Head. That has almost been spent up. For the refund of lapsed deposits another sum of Rs. 7,500 may be necessary to meet the requirements of this year. I request the House may be plased to grant the allotment.

Demand put and carried.

56. "41-3 (a) Food Supplies"—iv—Other charges

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* Sir, I rise to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 7,90,000 under "41-3 (a) Food Supplies—iv—Other charges". Several items of expenditure incurred last year under "39 Miscellaneous 3-Price Control (a) Food Supplies IV other charges" could not be paid last year for want of sufficient allotment. In addition to the above, several other items of expenditure which had not been originally anticipated in the Budget Estimate for the current year had also to be incurred this year. An amount of Rs. 6,08,791 is also required for adjustment towards the loss of 1119 as the same was not able to be adjusted last year. In view of the above facts and also of the fact that the allotment under the head is insufficient to meet the requirements, an additional allotment of Rs. 7,90,000 is necessary. I request the House may be peased to grant the allotment.

Mr. M. O. Thomakkutty *(Commerce and Industry):* Was any amount written off before this?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* No, Sir.

Mr. M. O. Thomakkutty *(Commerce and Industry):* I think some amount was written of in 1119.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* This is the net loss taking the two years together.

മിസ്റ്റർ ജോസ്സ്" കെ. വഗ്ഗിസ്സ്": ഇതിൽ ഈ Cost of Milk-ന വേണ്ടി യുള്ള, ചെലവു. ചിലവാക്കികാണുന്നുണ്ടു". ഈ പാൽ വാങ്ങിയിരുന്നുവോ, അതോ വിറ്റിരുന്നുവോ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* This represents the cost of milk paid in 1120.

മിസ്റ്റർ ജോസ്സ്" കെ. വഗ്ഗിസ്സ്": ജനറൽ ആസ്സ്യുറിയിലേക്കു" അയച്ചുതന്നതാണു പാൽപ്പൊടി ഉപയോഗിക്കേണ്ട സമയത്തു" ഉപയോഗിക്കാതെയോ മറ്റോ ചീത്തയായിട്ടു വെറുതെ കളയേണ്ടിവന്നിട്ടുള്ളതിനെപ്പറ്റി അറിയാമോ?

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Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* Yes. Some we got free of cost from the Red Cross Society. For some we had to pay.

മിസ്റ്റർ ജോസ്സ് കെ. വർഗ്ഗീസ്: നഷ്ടംവന്നതിനെപ്പറ്റി ആവലാധിയില്ല. പക്ഷെ വിദേശത്തുള്ള ആളുകൾ നമ്മളുടെ കുഞ്ഞുകുട്ടികളുടെ കഷ്ടപ്പാട് മനസ്സിലാക്കി സൗജന്യമായിതന്ന പാൽപ്പൊടി ആവശ്യത്തിനു ഉപയോഗിക്കാതെ അതു് ഉപയോഗശൂന്യമാക്കിക്കളയുന്നതു് കഷ്ടമല്ലെ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* For a portion of it we have paid but that was not fit for human consumption when it was brought over here.

Mr. Jos K. Verghese *(Trichur-South):* Does the Hon'ble Member mean to say that they send us useless stuff?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* They sent us a large lot. Some was found to be useless.

Mr. Jos K. Verghese *(Trichur-South):* Can you give us an approximate idea of the quantity you have sold.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* About 700 cwts. were found to be unfit for use.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* What is the cost in rupees, annas, pies?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* The cost of various consignments is different. It is very difficult to give the cost of these 700 cwts.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Is it a fact, Sir, that some of these consignments that were received were kept without distributing them for more than two months since you had made no arrangement for distribution?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* It is not a fact.

മിസ്റ്റർ ജോസ്സ് കെ. വർഗ്ഗീസ്: ഈ പാൽപൊടി എന്നാണു് വന്നിട്ടുള്ളതു്? അതൊന്നു തീയ്യതി പറയുവാൻ സാധിക്കുമോ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* We have been receiving consignments on several dates. Unless notice is given we cannot say on which date a particular consignment arrived.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I know whether any of the suggestions made from time to time by this House regarding the working of the Food Department had been accepted by the Government?

Mr. President: I must ask the Hon'ble Member to confine himself to the specific purpose for which the money goes. He is rather wandering away from the point.

*മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ: ഈ സംഖ്യ ഒരിക്കലും അനുവദിക്കുവാൻ പാടില്ലെന്നുള്ള അഭിപ്രായമാണു് എനിക്കുള്ളതു്. ക.രൂ. വിലകൊടുത്തു വാങ്ങിക്കുന്ന നെല്ലു് അരിയായിട്ടു വില്ക്കുന്നതു് ക.രൂ നൂറിനാണു്. അതിൽ നൂറു് ലാഭമുണ്ടു്. ഇനി നെല്ലു തന്നെയാണു് വില്ക്കുന്നതെങ്കിൽ ഒരു പറക്കു് ക.രൂ. ഏഴണ. രൂപ്പൈക്കാണു് വില്ക്കുന്നതു്. ഈ നിലക്കു് ഇങ്ങിനെ ഒരുനഷ്ടം വരാനുള്ള കാരണമെന്താണു്? ബ്രിട്ടീഷിൽ ഇടങ്ങഴിക്കു് രൂപ.യായിട്ടു കൊടുക്കുന്ന അരി ഇവിടെ നൂറു് രൂപ്പൈ.ക്കാണു് കൊടുക്കുന്നതു്. ഇനി ഗോതമ്പു വില കുറച്ചു കൊടുത്തിട്ടുണ്ടെങ്കിൽതന്നെ മറവുള്ളതിൽ ലാഭംകിട്ടീട്ടുണ്ടു്. ഗവ മെണ്ടു് ഇതുപോലെ ലാഭമുള്ള കച്ചവടം ചെയ്തിട്ടു് ഇപ്പോൾ റൈറ്റ് ഓഫ് ചെയ്യുന്നതു് ഒരിക്കലും അനുവദിക്കുവാൻ പാടില്ല. ചീറ്റൂർ താലൂക്കിലാണെങ്കിൽ അവിടന്നു് കിട്ടുന്ന അരി സർപ്ലസ്സാണു്. എന്നിരുന്നാലും ഇപ്പോൾ അവിടെ പച്ചരിതന്നെയാണു് കൊടുക്കുന്നതു്. തൃശ്ശിവപേരൂർ താലൂക്കിലും, മുകുന്ദരം താലൂക്കിലും നെല്ലുകൊടുക്കുവാൻ പ്രാക്ടിക്കൽ ഡിഫിക്കൽട്ടീസ്സുണ്ടെന്നുപറഞ്ഞു. രണ്ടുമൂന്നു മാസത്തോളം നെല്ലു മില്ലിലിട്ടു പുഴുങ്ങി പുളിപ്പിച്ചു കുത്തിയെടുക്കുന്ന അരി മനുഷ്യർക്കു് ഉപയോഗിക്കുവാൻ പാടില്ലാത്ത വിധത്തിലാക്കി, അതു് എല്ലാവർക്കും കൂടുതൽ വിലക്കു് കൊടുത്തു് ലാഭകച്ചവടം ചെയ്തിട്ടും, ഈ ഗവ, ൻ ൦, ൦ ൦ ൦ക. റൈറ്റ് ഓഫ് ചെയ്യുകൊടുക്കണമെന്നുള്ളതു് ഒരിക്കലും അനുവദിക്കാവുന്നതല്ല. വകുപ്പധ്യക്ഷൻ ഈവക കാര്യങ്ങൾ ആവശ്യപ്പെടുവാൻ പാടില്ലാത്തതാണു്. എല്ലാകാര്യത്തിലും ലാഭമെടുക്കുക. പിന്നേയും നായ്ക്കൻതുമ്പയുടെ മാതിരി "ഇങ്ങോട്ട്" "ഇ

*Speech not corrected by the Hon'ble Member.

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ങ്ങോട്ട്" എന്നുപറയുക, ഭരണമോശംകൊണ്ടോ, ശേഷിക്കുറവുകൊണ്ടോ വന്നിട്ടുള്ള തെറ്റിനു" കൊച്ചിയിലുള്ള 6 0 ലക്ഷം ജനങ്ങളും ഉത്തരവാദികളാകണമെന്നു" പറയുന്നതു" ഒരിക്കലും ശരിയല്ല. അതുകൊണ്ടു" ഞാൻ ഇതിനെ എതിർക്കുന്നു.

(The House rose for lunch at 1-30 p.m. and re-assembled at 2-30 p.m. with the Hon'ble the President in the Chair)

Adjournment motion

Mr. President: Mr. Puthur Achyuta Menon who gave notice of the motion for the adjournment of the business of the House has requested me to postpone the discussion until tomorrow afternoon. I have agreed to that.

DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS—(cont.)

Now the House will go on with the discussion on additional allotment item No. 56.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Sir, the Hon'ble Member for Food Supplies has come before this House with a supplementary demand for the small amount of seven lakhs and ninety thousand rupees, detailed here under six heads, the first of them being an amount of rupees 6,08,791 towards adjustment of less incurred by the department in the working of the department in 1119. The last of the items is the cost of milk which comes to Rs. 68,112. Then there is the third item, Sir, rent Rs. 9,237. Of this third item, rent obviously takes in the rent for the 104 Fair Price Shops maintained by the department mainly for the only purpose, as stated in answer to a question here yesterday, of selling sugar and a variety of wheat which according to the Hon'ble Member could not be entrusted to be sold by the licensed shop-keepers, very many in number, throughout the State who are entrusted with the sale of other and more necessary articles of food required by the population of the State. The Hon'ble Member for Supplies, attempted, Sir, yesterday at an explanation why mainly for the sale of these articles these Fair Price Shops, 104 in number, which explanation, it was evident, did not convince him even. A very large part of the amount under the head 'Rent' was the rent payable for some of these shops. I understand, Sir, that in certain areas the rent is prohibitively high not for the reason that buildings are not available at smaller rates of rent but because particular individuals who are the owners of these shops have to be given fat amounts in the shape of rent for very well known reasons. There is no apprehension in my mind at all that these statements will ever be controverted by persons who know the papers although some such attempt, I suspect, may be made.

Now, Sir, the losses incurred to the tune of Rs. 6,90,000 is the result of the working of the department in this and other objectionable ways. Repeated attempts have been made by this House to point out the ways and means by which the department could be worked if not at a gain at least without the loss coming to such large figures. For example, I again stress the point, Sir, that if these unwanted Fair Price Shops—some of them I do concede are necessary because licensed shop-keepers may not be available in certain particular areas—were abolished it will save a lot of money. As the President of the Food Advisory Board of the Talappalli Taluk, I know certain places, Sir, that require Fair Price Shops. But their number is very very limited. In 99 per cent of these cases, the Fair Price Shops can be abolished with advantage and the work done by them can without any detriment to the prestige of the supply department or the proper working of the department or detriment to the card holders be entrusted to these licensed shop-keepers. Repeated representations through resolutions of the Advisory Committee have been sent up by, not only the Taluk Committee of my place but by others also on these and similar lines pointing out the ways and means by which the loss to the department could be very much reduced and that to the advantage of the people at large. When repeated questions were put in this House as also directly to the Director, his attempt was, Sir, to pat some of these members on their backs and say that hereafter their recommendations will be accepted and attempted to be acted upon. But all ended with the patting on the back. There was no response or attempt to honour these promises. The Food Advisory Board recently reconstituted, Sir, has against my wish and in my absence has again elected me as its President. The first Advisory Committee of which I was President had repeatedly pointed out this waste of public money. The Travelling allowance and daily allowance that are paid or rather proposed to be paid—I say proposed to be paid, Sir, because they have not been paid in my Taluk—to the members of the Food Advisory Committees is an unnecessary waste. I am not complaining.

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I am of opinion that members who sit on such Committees should not be paid any Daily allowance or Travelling allowance. My submission to the House is that repeated requests have been made in this House from time to time pointing out better ways of working this Department. They have never been heeded to. Even at the time of the Budget Session of 1119 es also in the year 1120 and also in the current year various points were raised in this House by variou. Hon'ble members but the Hon'ble Member for Food Supplies on all those occasions cooly got up in his seat and gave a type-written speech not upon the points raised but on the points he anticipated would be raised. This is the sort of responsibility that the Hon'ble Member evinces deliberately or otherwise. The result is that he has not been heeding to the advice that this House has been giving to him in all good spirit, with the idea of seeing the department over which he presides works properly and to the advantage of the people. I think, Sir, the loss is mainly due to the haphazard way of working the department. That is one side of the picture.

My Hon'ble friend Rao Sahib Ayyappan and the Hon'ble Member for Ernakulam used to say in this House, Sir, that the Hon'ble Member for Supplies should not be criticised severely. But, Sir, you have to call a spade when the occasion demands that. This Hon'ble House, Sir, I am confident, will see eye to eye with me. But the question, Sir, is not anything personal. The question is why we should, thus go out of the way. I am sorry to state, Sir, that as a matter of fact certain other considerations used to prevail with some of the Hon'ble Members. Please excuse me for saying this once again. Certain other considerations are seen to prevail with certain Hon'ble Members when questions touching the Supplies Department are being discussed here. That, of course, I refer to, in passing. It is this sort of working of the department that has been responsible for this loss. As pointed out by the Hon'ble Member who spoke in the forenoon on this demand, paddy that is purchased at Rs. 1—6—0 and sold at Rs. 1—12—8 a para. This evidently cannot land you in any loss. Of course, the answer will be ready with the Hon'ble Member for Supplies. He is sure to tell this house, Sir, that the rice that is got down from Baluchistan and other far off places as also this is polled together and the loss is due to that That is the argument. There are other ways of meeting that deficit. It is not by this process.

As pointed out by one Hon'ble Member yesterday, in areas like Talappalli and Chittur which are the granaries of the State the people are supplied with raw rice of an inferior quality. What is your excuse for that I ask?

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Tattamangalam):* Not in Chittur.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* I ask, Sir, why not distribute good milled rice in these paddy growing areas. Then again about the commandeering of paddy. It is a process of snatching away by a very nuisensical process by the marmidens of the Revenue Department, persons not amenable to any reason, persons who have their own ways, persons who therefore have grown at at the expense of the poor subjects of His Highness. Parvathiams who have earned to the sum of Rs. 20,000 in the course of these two years are not a few. You search and you will find where such men exist. That is the way in which this department is worked and all these things have been repeatedly brought to the notice of the department and the Government but without any response. When such a Government comes before this House and asks for this big amount of nearly eight lakhs of rupees I feel that if we realise our responsibilities, we have no option but to throw out the demand. Of course, there is the power of certification as we saw in some of the papers placed here yesterday. Let that certification be resorted to. We can't help it. Let it be known that this department is carried on by a process of certification and not by a free vote of this House. That is the object which I have in my mind in opposing this demand. I don't know whether any other member will be voting with me. All the same my feelings on the subject I have placed before the House. I, therefore, very respectfully submit that we have no option—at least I have no option—but to throw away this demand which runs to the tune of nearly eight lakhs of rupees. I oppose the demand.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* Sir, it was stated by the Hon'ble Member for Vadakkancheri and the Hon'ble Member for Mukundapuram-Ezhuvas that raw rice is being distributed in the Taluks of Talappalli and Chittur. In Chittur it is not like that. Talappalli is not completely a self-sufficient taluk and so we had to send some raw rice. If raw rice is not sent there will be no rice at all. This year unfortunately our quantity of raw rice is very limited. Out of 16,267 tons of rice received towards this year's quota only 1,800 tons was boiled rice and so we have to distribute raw rice in deficit areas. In Talappalli also we are

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not giving entirely raw rice but a portion of raw rice is being given. It is inavitable. We are trying our best to secure as much boiled rice as possible. But there is competition in getting raw rice even, and if we do not take raw rice we may not get any rice at all.

Then with regard to Fair Price Shops. The reason for rationing the Fair Price Shops was explained to the House in detail yesterday and the allotment for that is only Rs. 213. Then it was pointed out that in spite of repeated warnings of corruptions we are not responsive to the criticisms. I think it is contrary to the facts.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)* : Please give us one instance in which you have acted according to the wishes of this Council in this matter.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: Out of about 86 resolutions passed by the Committee of which the Hon'ble Member for Vadakkancheri is the President we have taken action in accordance with the resolutions in regard to 26 cases and so also in the case of several other suggestions made by several other Committees.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: The papers, Sir, will belie that statement.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: There are other mstters in which we have not taken action and this is one. We have been stating our case why we are unable to do so.

Then with regard to the distribution of paddy as paddy. We are in response to his suggestion trying to distribute paddy as paddy in the surplus taluk of Trichur.

Then as regards corruption with regard to the subordinate staff. It is very easy to make general accusations. I would request the Hon'ble Member to give me a concrete instance and I beg to assure him that we will be dealing very severely in all cases of corruption. We will be glad if the Hon'ble Member will help us by confidentially handing over to us any information in his possession instead of making general allegations of this sort. I request the House to grant the allotment.

Mr. P. Sankara Menon *(Trichur-North)*: Does the Government use to pay rent for buildings taken on rent? *(Laughter)*.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: Unfortunately there has been some delay in some cases. We are trying to avoid such delays in future. The difficulty arises like this. There is a lot of bargaining about the rent.

Demand put and carried

57. "A1-b-Collection and Transport charges"

Mr. S. Venkiteswaran *(Conservator of Forests)*: Sir, I rise to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 2,96,250 under "A1-b-Collection and Transport Charges". The Forest Department has undertaken to supply 7,500 tons of timber in all to the A. T. T. Tatas and Malabar Plywood works. About 300 tons of timber are also to be collected for sale according to necessity. The collection and transport charges of this quantity of timber come to Rs. 2,96,250. The revenue anticipated by sale of the above quantity is Rs. 6,24,000. As there is no provision in the budget for the collection and transport charges an additional allotment is required. I request that the House may be pleased to grant the allotment.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ: മിലിട്ടറി സപ്ലിസിലേക്ക മരം, വിറക മുതലായവ കൊണ്ടുപോയ വഴിയിൽക്കൂടി ഇതും കൊണ്ടുവന്നുകൂടെ?

Mr. S. Venkiteswaran *(Conservator of Forests)*: The same road is going to be used for this purpose.

Mr. K. T. Achuthan *(Mukundapuram-Ezhuvas)*: What species of timber, please?

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